



TASK FORCE FALCON



Falcon Flier

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Pfc. Raymond Files and Pvt. Jared Flowers, combat engineers with the 11th Engineers, keep a constant vigil despite pouring rain on May 25 at Camp Bonsteel, Kosovo. Task Force Falcon 3A continue the legacy of the Kosovo Gaurdians and Peacekeepers.

Soldiers pass the torch and a new rotation takes over

Story by
Spc. Marshal Thompson
Camp Bondsteel PAO

Soldiers on their way home congregate outside of the mystical "beer tent" in Camp Able Sentry, Macedonia and share experiences as new soldiers arrive from the airfield tired but excited for the adventure that lies ahead.

The seamless flow of soldiers in and out may appear to happen so naturally that one would never question who has been setting up this operation since late last December.

Last December, most soldiers now leaving had just arrived in country. Now it's time for them to go home, and it is met with mixed emotions.

Spc. Shannon Egelhoff, a network switch technician in the 141st Signal battalion in the 1st Armored Division on her way home to Germany, said she wasn't really too excited to go home.

"I liked it down here. I got to do my job," Egelhoff said.

Egelhoff's fellow soldiers did not share her feelings for returns as they talked eagerly of home before receiving a briefing in the beer tent. Later that day a large jet landed in the

airfield bearing new sentinels to replace the old.

Most were very tired from the long hours of traveling from planes to buses and back again. Despite the fatigue there is an air of excitement as the plane door opens and they descend the staircase onto the tarmac in the increasing twilight of a foreign skyline.

"I've never been out of the country before," said Pfc. Charles W. Stenner, a tank crewman in the 3rd Infantry Division.

"I think it will be interesting to see what other cultures are like and have new experiences," Stenner said as he rode on a shuttle from the airfield to Camp Able Sentry.

Up in the front of the bus is Dale Bedard, an Air Passenger Specialist with Brown and Root Services. Dale has just overseen the movement of 106 soldiers and tomorrow he'll probably do more. Bedard is one of the many people that work hard so that soldiers deploying can get where they want to be with a minimum of stress.

"We try to make it," said Major Paul Mason, Overall Plans Officer for this transfer of authority from the 1st Infantry Division.

Mason is currently working with Major Cheryl Moman, his counterpart from the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Moman said

that this was an unusually complicated transfer because for the first time ever it involved a division that was based in the United States and not in Europe. Moman and the rest of the group were responsible for moving over 5,000 soldiers and over 1,000 pieces of equipment.

"If we're going to be down here we want to make sure that everyone is taken care of," Mason said.

As Mason's team takes care of the intricate planning, another team takes care of execution of those plans. The Receiving Staging and Onward movement cadre help the soldiers get off the plane and eventually to where they want to be. They move luggage, they give briefings and they make sure everybody is online to be where they're supposed to be.

"If we don't do what we're doing here, then the soldiers can't get in-processed and do what they need to do at their permanent stations," said Pfc. Jose Arredondo, and RSO Cadre from the 18th Combat Support Battalion.

Soon the transfer of authority will be finished, only to be started again in another six months. Hopefully the next transfer of authority will run as seamlessly as this one has thanks to the many dedicated men and women that planned/executed the immense undertaking.

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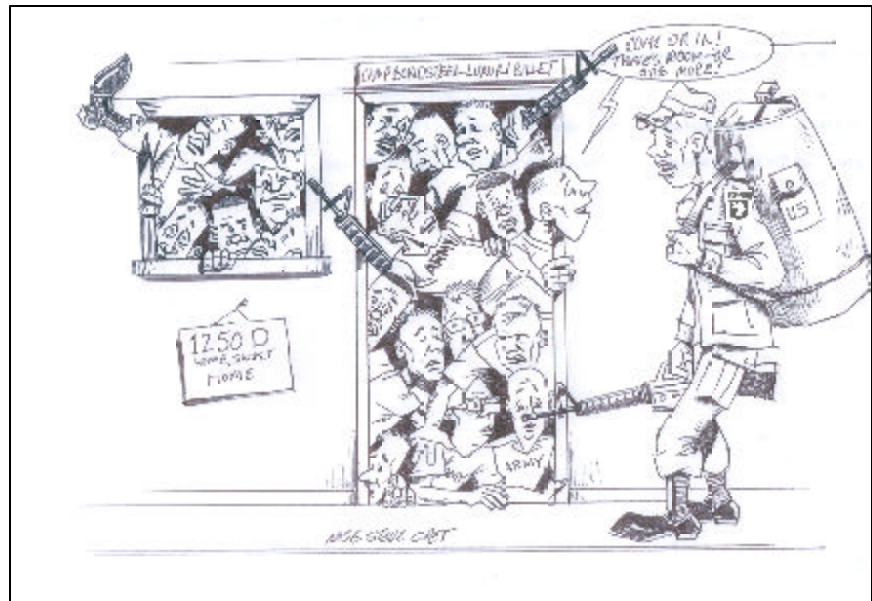
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WANTED

The Falcon Flier wants your stories -- award ceremonies, events, activities, or human interest news. All units from Camps Bondsteel, Able Sentry and Monteith are invited to submit information for publication. While we may not be able to run every story because of space limitations, we would like to hear from you.

Please feel free to contact the Task Force Falcon Public Affairs Office with your ideas, news and comments at:

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Brown & Root create better living conditions for soldiers in Kosovo

**Story and Photos
by Pfc. Duane Brown
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

Evolving from the humble beginning of building roads in the oil fields of Texas, Brown and Root Services has become an important part of the daily operations of the armed forces around the world.

Brown and Root provides construction and logistical support services for the U.S. government not only in the Balkans but also in places like Rwanda, Saudi Arabia and the United States just to mention a few.

The Brown and Root operation has been successful because of the unique working relationship that has developed over the years coexisting in a work environment with the military.

Ferizaj/Urosevac is the location of the headquarters for U.S. Kosovo Forces Brown and Root facility.

"We are involved in projects from the planning stages of base camps to the completion of the mission. From the cradle to the grave," said Fred R. Conner, regional operations manager, Brown and Root. "We have serviced 50,000 troops over a span of 10 years."

Brown and Root provides Title X support to Task Force Falcon. It does life support, base and information structure construction.

"Brown and Root is contracted to meet mission objectives like living quarters, hospitals, dining facilities, power, water, waste management and hazardous waste removal," Conner said.

The contract between Brown and Root and the government is a cost plus contract. Under this contract, Brown and Root only charges the government what it pays for services rendered plus a



Brown and Root Workers begin construction of new hospital located at camp Bondsteel.

negotiated fee based on a performance evaluation.

The contract issued through the U.S. Army Europe Corps of Engineers is titled the Balkans Support Contract.

"I want to succeed and get a good evaluation. That is how Brown and Root makes its profits," said David M. Capouya, regional project manager, B&R.

Their services cover a large area of functional services that support TFF. By using Brown and Root, it eliminates the need to have multiple contractors.

"If the Army wanted to bring an engineer unit here to perform some of the tasks we do, they would have to bring in an engineer battalion to do what we're doing," Capouya said.

Capouya has the flexibility to staff his operation according to what is required to meet the demand of the mission. If there is no demand, he can reduce his staff.

"If the number of soldiers supported by Brown and Root goes down and TFF verifies this

decrease, Brown and Root has the capability to reduce its work force keeping overhead cost to a minimum," Capouya said.

In the event subcontractors are needed, Brown and Root hires and manages those contractors.

Brown and Root currently services 72 remote sites in Multinational Brigade (East), including Mt. Preslap in Macedonia. Forty of the sites contain a squad-size element or larger.

Brown and Root's Kosovo Force operation employs 5,000 workers. 500 of these workers are deployed from the United States.

The U.S. KFOR civil affairs unit played an instrumental in the coordination of hiring the local national workforce.

Since Brown and Root operates in a government-owned facility, it follows force protection requirements as US troops.

"We're civilian augmentees of Task Force Falcon. We do jobs that would otherwise be done by soldiers, minus the weapons. We are soldiers in blue-jeans," said Conner.

In the event of a heightened threat condition, military police assigned to the facility would have increased force protection responsibilities for the Brown and Root compound.

If there is an immediate threat, the Greek Mechanized Battalion in Ferizaj/Urosevac has a quick reaction force that is responsible for the personnel and property in the compound, Conner said.

Like everything revolving around the KFOR mission, Brown and Root has an internal support structure that is dependant on each working part.

"Here at Brown and Root, we are faced with constantly changing challenges everyday. No matter how trivial the task, we take the extra time necessary to make sure that everything in the work environment is safe," said Dennis L. Mills, welder foreman, Brown and Root. "When it comes to working with soldiers or local nationals, we all work as a group and haven't let one another down yet."

Civil affairs transforms abandoned houses into civilian collection points

**Story by
SpC. Engels Tejeda
Camp Monteith PAO**

U.S. Soldiers, Marines, and members of the TMK (the Kosovo Protection Corps) transformed two abandoned houses into a fully operational civilian collection point within a matter of hours. The site, located one mile from Check Point Terminator, will serve as an "in-processing" location for internally displaced personnel who are expected to cross the Ground Safety Zone.

This operation marked the first of many expected joint emergency relief efforts between KFOR and the TMK.

Composed of all Kosovo ethnicities, the TMK is a local civil emergency relief force that has been trained by KFOR to respond to urgent situations.

The organization is divided into regional task groups, which consist of approximately 40

members each. For this given mission, Regional Task Group Six (RTG-6), out of Gjilan/Gnjilane, worked under the supervision of a team of Marines who will be operating the site. The Marines, C Company of the 40th Engineers, and RTG 6 worked on two abandoned houses, and transformed them into an operational site literally over night.

According to Capt. Varick Ready, officer in charge of the civil affairs team, the engineers landed on site Friday, and made sure that the location was safe and secure. On Saturday morning, Marines from the 4th Civil Affairs Group out of Camp Bondsteel supervised the operation while RTG-6 provided the manpower to prepare the site.

"They covered holes, (cut) the lawn, cleaned the houses, and are helping us to set up the tents," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Monika, the civil affairs team leader.

The TMK has been actively involved in the Kosovo community. According to Maj. Mark Carson, liaison officer to RTG-6 from Multinational Brigade East (MNB-E), the TMK

has participated in small non-emergency missions such as cleaning up the villages and cities, and helping other civilians to restore their homes and properties. "It is a big confidence (booster) on both of our parts," said Carson referring to KFOR's Union with the TMK. "Today they proved to us that they could assist us."

Ready said that RTG-6 was motivated and ready to work while at the site. "They want what is right for Kosovo today. They recognize that Kosovo needs them...they are doing a good job," he said.

Equally enthusiastic about the mission was Abdullah Musliv, deputy commander of the 16th Guard Bolt and the representative in charge of RTG-6. "Everything is doing very well today," he said. "We are very lucky to be the first ones to start working directly with KFOR," he added.

KFOR hopes that the TMK will continue to do as well as it is doing today, said Carson.

Through training, the TMK will soon be able to respond to any emergency in Kosovo.

Brigadier General David welcomes troops to Kosovo

Story By Commanding General William David

Congratulations to BG Ken Quinlan and the entire KFOR 2B team for a job well done! The KFOR 3A team is extremely thankful for all you did to make the relief in place go so smoothly. In my view, it was a tremendous success. Throughout the KFOR 2B rotation, you set high standards and you can take justifiable pride in your many accomplishments. We wish you a safe journey home and success in all your future endeavors.

To new KFOR 3A team, welcome to Kosovo. The soldiers and units that join those of you remaining from 2B are proud to be your partners as – together – we serve on behalf of bringing peace and stability to this region.

Already, I have had the pleasure to see many of you at work. To those I have not yet had a chance to visit, I look forward to seeing you soon. Every soldier – regardless of rank – makes an important contribution to the success of our mission. From what

I've observed so far, all of you are trained and ready. I am confident that we've got all the right pieces in place for a great rotation.

I have four goals for this task force. All four of them require maximum dedication by every member of the task force – military, DA civilian, and contract employees. Although success may not be immediately apparent, over time each of you will see it much more clearly.

First, we will accomplish our mission of providing a safe and secure environment. After all, this is what we came here to do. Second, we will leave this place a little better than we found it. This goes for everything inside and outside the wire. Third, everyone will return home safe and sound when our time is done. Fourth, I challenge each of you to establish goals for personal improvement on this deployment – physical, mental, and spiritual. As a check to see if anyone actually reads this column, I will award any soldier with a CG's coin if they are able to repeat these four goals when questioned by me.

Finally, I want to remind you that when outsiders look at us,



they may give a glance at the patch on your left sleeve. What they focus on, however, is the "Old Glory" sewn on your right. Task Force Falcon is – and must remain – a team. Everyone must treat

each other as a teammate, no individual or piece of the team is more important than the other. While I am honored to be your commander, I am more honored to be your teammate. Be Relentless!

New Eagle Cash Card arriving soon

Story By Maj. Kolozsy, 101st Soldier Support Battalion

What is it? The EagleCash card is the new card system finance customers will use in Kosovo and Macedonia beginning June 2001 to receive dollars from Finance and make purchases at all camp vendors. Bosnia has been using the system since 2000.

How does it work? The first time a customer cashes a check or obtains a casual pay at Finance after implementation, the cashier will issue the soldier an EagleCash card with a computer chip.

After initializing the card for the customer, the cashier will load it with the dollar value of the transaction. The customer will still choose how much money to place on the card and be able to obtain foreign currency. Foreign currency will continue to be paid in currency.

When EagleCash cardholders purchase goods or services from vendors, they will insert their EagleCash Card into a Point of Sale (POS) terminal next to the cash register. This collection terminal will deduct electronic value from the card for the amount of the purchase. POS terminals allow cardholders to view their card value before and after the sale.

The system is quite versatile and flexible. POS terminals will allow customers to pay tips to vendors that provide services and will be available in bazaars. Vendors will continue to accept cash for those who have it. At the end of their Kosovo rotation, cardholders will be able to redeem, for cash, the card's remaining amount.



Where can I use it? You will be able to use your EagleCash Card to make purchases and payments at the following locations:

- PX
- Post Office
- Barber/Beauty Shop
- Recreation Center
- Alterations
- Cappuccino Bar
- Gift Shops
- Burger King
- Anthony's Pizza
- Pressing
- Phone Center

- Finance Office (To purchase foreign currency)

When is it coming? Finance offices are scheduled to issue EagleCash as follows:

- Camp Able Sentry – 21 June 2001
- Camp Bondsteel – 24 June 2001
- Camp Monteith – 26 June 2001

Is the EagleCash card mandatory? No, people do not need to obtain a card. They can still pay vendors with checks, credit cards, and cash (until they run out). However, if customers want to cash a check at finance for US dollars, finance will place the amount on an EagleCash card.

TRW provides invaluable service to Task Force Falcon

**Story By Pfc. Duane Brown
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

Thompson Ramo Wooldridge Linguistic Services works with Task Force Falcon soldiers day in and day out to successfully meet mission objectives to provide a safe and secure environment for all Kosovo people by providing an invaluable service.

Thompson Ramo Wooldridge is responsible for providing linguists for TFF from the squad level to the commanding general.

"When you are able to communicate with the local nationals, you get a better knowledge of what is going on in the environment you are operating in," said Marvin E. Erickson, site manager, TFF Area of Operations, Balkans Linguist Program. "Being a Vietnam Veteran, I firmly believe if we had this capability, there would be less people on the Vietnam Memorial Wall."

Soldiers can communicate with local nationals to find out information pertaining to mission objectives through the services provided by TRW. An example of such information can lead to finding locations of mines and weapons caches, Erickson said.

"So much good is done by the work of interpreters on a day-to-day basis, it would be impossible to keep track of all their contributions," Erickson said.

Last year during a riot in Multinational Brigade (East), a local national interpreter disre-



Arlinda Kastrati, an interpreter at camp Bondsteel, provides communication between Sgt. 1st Class Weldarson S. Robinson of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion and Xhelal Jenuzi, a janitor at a United Nations headquarters building.

garded all reservations about his personal safety and ran to aid a fallen soldier to pull him back to what he deemed a safe position. Upon reaching the position, the interpreter covered the soldier with his own body as the enraged crowd around them was throwing rocks, Erickson added.

"Working with soldiers is a lot easier to deal with than people in the workplace in the United States," said Selvia Sehou-Emini, linguist, TRW, from Queens, New York. "Soldiers are more professional. They have a very important job to do and are very focused in completing appointed tasks. Tasks, which not only involve the lives of others but their own life as well."

The TRW staff is made up of 570 interpreters. Approximately 100 of the interpreters are civilian contractors deployed from the United States. The remaining are local nationals.

Civilian contractors from the states are contracted for one year of service. They have the option of extending indefinitely.

Local nationals are hired from Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania. They are tested for English comprehension and their own language as well.

Based on personal language aptitude, interpreters are placed accordingly. For instance, those who possess an engineering background are placed with engineer units and medical backgrounds

with medical units, Erickson said.

"After being hired, interpreters are prepped to the best of our ability to prepare them for living in a military environment," Erickson said.

Like TFF soldiers, civilian contractors are required to deploy without family members.

"I really identify with the soldiers when it comes to being deployed away from family members," Sehou-Emini said. "Everyday that goes by, I miss my 12-year-old daughter, Liriana, and 10-year-old son, Bekim, more and more. They are my reason for being."

Local nationals working for TRW not only help TFF but also gain the chance to achieve personal growth through their daily work experiences.

"Being from Macedonia, I have grown-up seeing first-hand all the things that need to change. This is the best opportunity to be apart of those that are seeking change," said Ilir Zenuni, local-national linguist, TRW.

On a daily basis linguists interact with political leaders, generals and different armies from around the world, Erickson said.

"They will be far ahead of their peers when it comes to understanding the international arena. Twenty or 30 years from now, these individuals will be the leaders of tomorrow," Erickson said.

"I would prefer 50 years of political talks than suffer the loss of one human life," Zenuni added.

FALCON'S FORCE

What are your first impressions of Kosovo?



2nd Lt. David Stacker
Assistant S2
11th Engineers, 3rd
Infantry Division

"It's a beautiful country with friendly people, but there's a lot of trash lying around. People are easy to work with. Camp Bondsteel has great food and facilities."



Cpl. Thomas Gorsuch
Combat engineer
11th Engineers, 3rd Infantry
Division

"My first impression of Kosovo is it's just the same as any other deployment. It's just another place to do your job."



Pfc. Oye White,
Machinist
11th Engineers, 3rd
Infantry Division

"It seems like we're going to have a lot to do in the next six months. I've never seen anything like this before. I'm ready to do what I need to do."



Sgt. Claude Ligon
Heavy equipment
operator
155th Engineers

"It's okay from what I've seen. It's an experience. All the people are really nice."



Spc. Amber L. Archer
Personnel administrator
3rd Logistics Task
Force, 3rd ID

"There's great food and the D-Fac's open all night just in case you get hungry or have to work late. The people we replaced have been very helpful in training us."



Spc. Steven K. Yun
Financial specialist
101st Soldier Support
Battalion

"I thought it would be a lot worse. It's a lot better than what I expected. Living conditions are better than expected and the chow hall is pretty nice."

Survey says 'Balance Army needs with Army beliefs'

**Story by Joe Burlas
Army News Service**

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, May 25, 2001) — Army Transformation is not just about getting new equipment and creating doctrine for a leaner, lighter force envisioned for Interim Brigade Combat Teams. It is also about creating a balanced internal culture that makes soldiers and their families the Army's center of gravity, according to the Army Training and Leader Development Panel.

A summary of the panel's findings was released May 25.

The panel interviewed more than 13,000 soldiers and family members in the past year to examine issues impacting training and leader development and how current policies in those areas effect leaders and soldiers as they carry out their assigned missions. Additional studies seeking the views of noncommissioned and warrant officers are planned.

"The Army is transforming itself into a new force for the future..."

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki said. "The most important part of that force will be its soldiers and leaders. They must be agile and adaptive in order to employ the capabilities that the future Army must possess. The Army must begin now to train the soldiers and grow the leaders for the Objective Force."

What the Field Said

Respondents addressed issues that ranged from well-being to job satisfaction and training standards to the officer education system. According to the report's executive summary, answers indicated that the Army culture is out of balance — that Army practices do not match up with Army beliefs. But, the field also expressed a strong belief in service to the nation and pride in their profession.

Specific findings included:

- Combat Training Centers are highly valued by the field as the Army's best training experience.
- High operational tempo negatively impacts every aspect of the Army.
- The officer assignment process focuses on personnel management rather than quality professional development.
- Lieutenants are often rushed through developmental leadership positions that impact on their opportunity to master tactical and leadership skills due to a shortage of captains.
- The latest Officer Efficiency Report is yet to be accepted. The management of the senior rater profile is a major issue. There is a belief that an above-center-of-mass performance does not always equal the same rating on the evaluation.
- The Army's commitment to well-being, family and personal time, health care, housing, and retirement benefit expectations are not being fully met.
- Decisions to make the Army their career are strongly influenced by pride in the Army and its service to the nation. Spouses strongly echoed this position.
- Junior officers discussed concerns about job satisfaction, unmet leadership development opportunities and an imbalance between the needs of the Army and the needs of family.
- For more senior officers, concerns centered on the OER, the Command and General Staff Officer College selection board and a sense of being valued.

Panel Recommendations

The panel used the results of field surveys, one-on-one interviews, focus groups and detailed research of other data sources in developing conclusions and recommendations. The panel viewed seven recommendations as imperatives. These were:

Army Culture. Recognize the strong relationship between Army culture and the quality of our training and leader development programs. Army culture (job satisfaction, expectations, shared commitment, micromanagement) must operate routinely within an acceptable "band of tolerance" for the Army to effectively train soldiers and grow leaders.

Officer Education System. Adapt the system to meet the needs of the transforming Army and the realities of the Operational Environment.

Training. Revitalize the Army training system by updating training doctrine, improving home station training, and modernizing the Combat Training Centers.

Systems Approach to Training. Recommit to standards-based training. Standards are the basis for developing training, assessing performance and providing feedback.

Training and Leader Development Model. Adopt a model that clearly shows how training and leader development are linked. The new model must effectively communicate intent and be understood by junior leaders, staffs, and outside agencies. The product of the model should be self-aware, adaptive leaders, and trained and ready units.

Management Process. Implement a management process to change training and leader development. This management process must be iterative, collaborative, and comprehensive. It must provide a recurring forum for senior leaders to measure progress, adjust priorities, and apply resources.

Lifelong Learning. Commit our leaders to lifelong learning through a balance of educational and operational experiences, complemented by self-development. To be a learning organization that supports lifelong learning, the Army must provide training and educational standards and products; a doctrine that fosters lifelong learning; and a digital "Warrior Knowledge Network" to provide one-stop information access for soldiers, leaders and units.

Actions Taken

The panel kept Army senior leaders informed of the progress throughout the survey process. Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki has already acted on many of the ATLDP recommendations — some before the recommendations were made because they were the right things to do, and others based upon the panel's findings. Still

other recommendations require more thorough review.

The Army is pursuing and in some cases has already implemented the following panel recommendations:

- offering soldiers the opportunity to request stabilization if they have children who are high school seniors.
- stabilizing lieutenants in platoon-level jobs for a minimum of one year to ensure they build an adequate leadership foundation.
- scheduling 4-day training holidays in conjunction with national holidays.
- developing a five-year calendar that includes all training center rotations, deployments to Bosnia, and other rotational missions such as those in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the Sinai.
- reviewing and eliminating non-mission compliance tasks that compete with war fighting training.
- requiring general officer approval for active-Army weekend garrison training to increase predictability and quality of life.
- enforcing current training doctrine and stabilization of lieutenants in developmental positions.
- moving all battalion and brigade changes of command to a summer cycle.
- pursuing actions to give soldiers permanent change of station orders a year out from their assignments.
- ensuring training standards are developed and enforced.
- reducing headquarters manning at division level and above to no more than 105 percent.
- rewriting training manuals FM 25-100 and FM 25-101.

The Road Ahead

The ATLDP report is now at the Department of the Army for review and implementation as appropriate.

The Army Staff will complete its review to determine resource priorities and develop an implementation management process. Currently, the ATLDP will continue its study by examining the Non-Commissioned Officer Corps over the next six months. Teams of NCOs and officers will conduct surveys, interviews, and focus groups with more than 33,000 NCOs around the Army.

"The Army is transforming itself into a new force for the future. The most important part of that force will be its soldiers and leaders. They must be agile and adaptive in order to employ the capabilities that the future Army must possess. The Army must begin now to train the soldiers and grow the leaders for the Objective Force."

**Chief of Staff of the Army
Gen. Eric K. Shinseki**

NEWS

50 years ago last week, May 24-30, 1951

'Operation Piledriver' helps push Chinese back

Story by Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, May 23, 2001) — Chinese and North Korean forces on most of the front continued to rapidly withdraw to the 38th Parallel, 50 years ago this week in Korea.

American corps commanders urged their division commanders to move faster to catch up with them.

May 24-30, 1951 — On May 24, IX Corps' objective was to reach line Topeka, which, in the 7th Infantry Division's area, is slightly above Chunchon. The 7th's 32nd Infantry Regiment sends a tank task force up Route 29 to Chunchon under command of Capt. Charles Hazel.

Task Force Hazel is eight miles from Chunchon when they begin taking small arms and machine gun fire from a regiment of the Chinese 60th Army blocking the pass through the hills. Fortunately, the Chinese do not have anti-tank weapons.

Moving more vulnerable vehicles back, Hazel runs the twisting pass in closed-up tanks. Enemy fire bounces harmlessly off the armor.

The task force drives into Chunchon that afternoon. There they split up into teams of two and three and search the town on both sides of the Soyang River. They kill or capture 100 Chinese.

On the northeast side of town they find a very large group of Chinese fleeing in panic because they think the tanks are the spearhead of a major offensive. The task force rakes the group, which is in such a hurry to get away that none stop to return fire.

The team is eventually told to withdraw from the town to be reinforced with two tank platoons. On the way back through the pass, Hazel places his prisoners on top of the tanks and buttons them up. All but one of the prisoners are wounded on the trip.

Maj. Gen. Claude Ferenbaugh, 7th ID commander, and a party try to go through the pass after Task Force Hazel. They come under fire from the Chinese. Two members of his armed escort are killed and one is wounded. The general, his aide and driver take cover in the rocks and foliage on the eastern slope.

He is rescued by a tank platoon on its way to reinforce Task Force Hazel. The platoon finds and picks up the wounded escort.

They then turn the tanks around and park on the east side of the road, staying buttoned up until dark and taking fire all the time. When night falls Ferenbaugh and the others come out one at a time and crawl into a tank. The platoon returns to 32nd IR's lines with Ferenbaugh and the others.

Upon Task Force Hazel's return to Chunchon May 25, an air observer drops them a note that he has seen a sign, "POW 19," made out of wallpaper strips, with "rescue" spelled out in stones beneath it just southeast of town. The pilot guides three tanks to the location. There they find 18 enlisted Marines and one enlisted Army soldier. They had been captured Nov. 30 around Chosin Reservoir and kept with their captors until they were abandoned when the Chinese fled Chunchon.

Air observers report that north of the town about 10,000 Chinese are jamming Route 17 and the secondary trails and roads leading

to it.

West and northwest of Chunchon they see another group of several thousand traveling on the ground between Route 17 and the Kapyong-Chiam-ni road. The observers call in air attacks and artillery on both groups.

About noon, 10-12,000 soldiers of the Chinese 12th and 15th Armies are spotted coming out of X Corps' sector heading for Hwachon town. Artillery and a fighter group pulverize the columns.

Around midday on May 26, two U.S. and one ROK regiments surround and trap the large group of Chinese between Route 17 and Kapyong-Chiam-ni. Low clouds prevent air attacks, but artillery pounds the trapped enemy.

On their first attempt to break out, about 300 Chinese by chance attack the perimeter where only a medical company and 21st IR headquarters company personnel man the line.

When they charge, the Chinese suffer huge losses. Bloodied, they withdraw to the hills and keep the perimeter under machine gun, only to lift it when another group attacks the medics and admin troops. Each group is thrown back.

By daylight the 15th IR arrives to take on the last group of attackers. Through the night, the defenders, whose main jobs are not toting rifles, kill 300 Chinese, wound about 250 and capture 450. Two defenders are killed and 20 wounded.

Lt. Gen. James Van Fleet tells reporters May 26 that Eighth Army's job is to "find and kill the enemy" and "the 38th Parallel has no significance in the present tactical situation."

There are other failed attempts by the surrounded Chinese to break out throughout the morning of May 27. Confused enemy groups begin wandering aimless around, hoping to find an escape route.

The 5th IR and the ROK 19th Regiment begin mopping up the disorganized enemy groups later in the day May 27. They capture more Chinese and large groups surrender. By the end of the day, May 28, they have taken about 3,000 prisoners.

Other larger enemy groups escape Eighth Army. To carry out his mission to kill the enemy, Van Fleet devises Operation Piledriver on May 27 to continue the counterattack. In the west and central sectors, I and IX Corps are to cut enemy communications at the base of the Iron Triangle and take control of the Chorwon-Kumhwa area on line Wyoming. The X Corps and ROK I Corps are to move to line Kansas, which now runs above Route 24 and the port city of Kansong.

Van Fleet wants the 1st Marine Division to conduct an amphibious operation out of Kansong, to land north of a large enemy force northeast of the Hwachon Reservoir. The Marines will attack south down Route 17 while IX Corps blocks all escape routes below them, and then the two forces will methodically wipe out the trapped communists.

But since those movements go beyond the Wyoming and Kansas lines, Van Fleet needs Ridgway's approval, and on May 28 sends the

request to Tokyo. Late that same day, Ridgway flies to Seoul to meet with Van Fleet. Ridgway tells Van Fleet the risks in the plan outweigh the expected outcome. While Eighth Army's job is to kill as many enemy as possible, it must keep its human and equipment losses as low as possible.

Ridgway tells Van Fleet to give him a projection of what the next 60 days will bring, and on May 29 flies back to Tokyo.

May 24 — Brig. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, former assistant commander of the 1st Marine Division, is quoted in Washington as saying the Air Force "does not believe in" and "has never practiced" close air support for ground units. He also says American servicemen should have tougher training that establishes "pride" and should have more "beer and whiskey" and less ice cream, candy and girls.

May 25 — The United States estimates the communists have suffered 1,205,404 casualties by May 23. The breakdown is 736,449 battle casualties, 138,880 noncombat losses and 150,075 prisoners.

May 25-30 — The service chiefs testify at the MacArthur hearings.

Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Army chief of staff, appears May 25-26.

He said last year MacArthur disobeyed a "clear-cut directive" to permit only South Koreans to advance to the Yalu River border with China. No American units were to establish positions on the border.

Collins says the peace settlement plan put to the Chinese earlier in the year — which Truman said MacArthur snuffed out with his March 24

offer to negotiate with his Chinese counterpart — would have reestablished the 38th Parallel as the dividing line for Korea. He says then UN objectives of unifying Korea could have been worked out as negotiations went on.

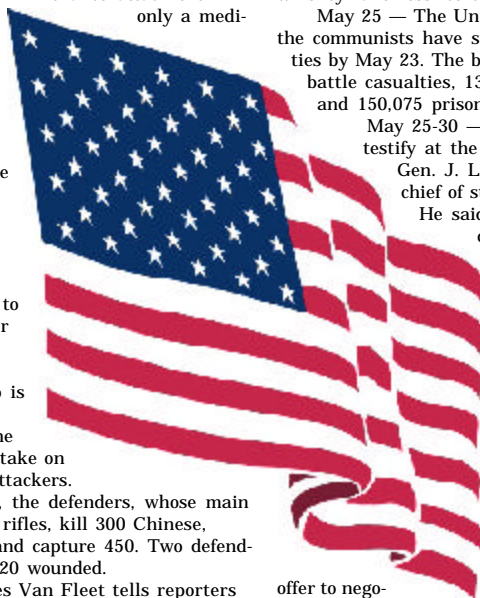
May 28-29 — Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Air Force chief, testifies. He says the Air Force's ability to knock out all major manufacturing cities in China is not "conclusive." As far as its global responsibilities, the Air Force is a "shoestring" operation. The communist's MiG-15 has a better engine than U.S. jets, but better-trained pilots and better armaments give the edge to the Air Force, Vandenberg says.

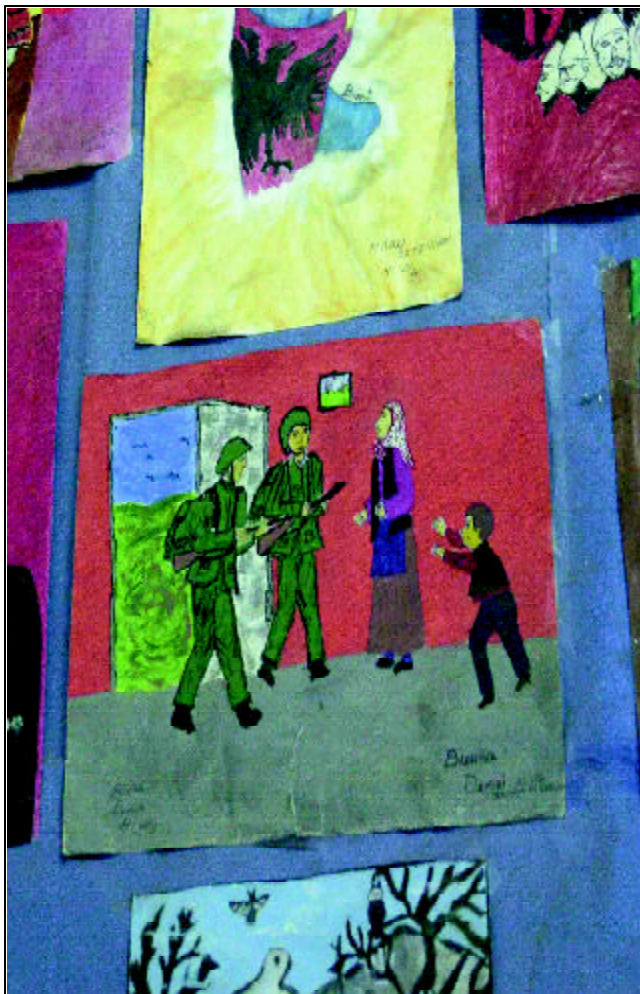
The Air Force is in danger of being outstripped in numbers of planes by the high rates of production of communist factories.

Vandenberg says air operations in Korea has given the Soviet Union a chance to learn more about the U.S. Air Force than can be learned about theirs. The USAF has lost 212 planes through early May to the Reds' 149. That's because American aviators have flown five times as many sorties as the enemy.

May 28 — Soviet U.N. Delegate Jacob Malik says reports that Russia has quietly tried to arrange peace talks are "completely groundless."

May 30 — Adm. Forrest P. Sherman, chief of naval operations, starts his two-day testimony. He favors a naval blockade of China, but the United States should not act alone. MacArthur was relieved because "we must have a commander in whom we can confide and on whom we can rely."





A picture painted by an eight-year-old child in a school in Urosevac/Ferizaj depicting the night enemy soldiers took his mother away.

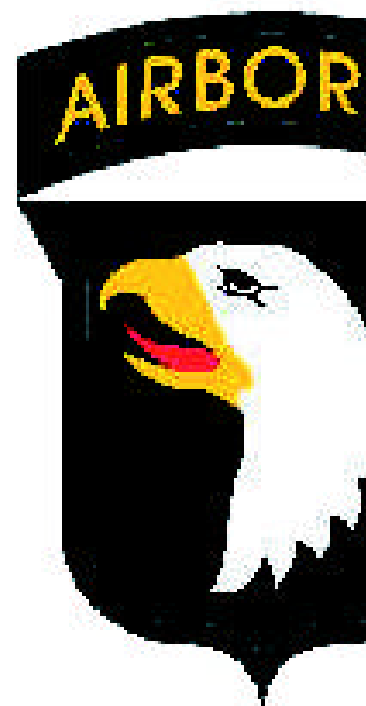
Welcome to



Children waiting in line to receive free eye care and glasses from Task Force Falcon.



Soldiers from the 3A rotation deplane in Macedonia and board buses that will take them to Camp Able Sentry for in-processing.



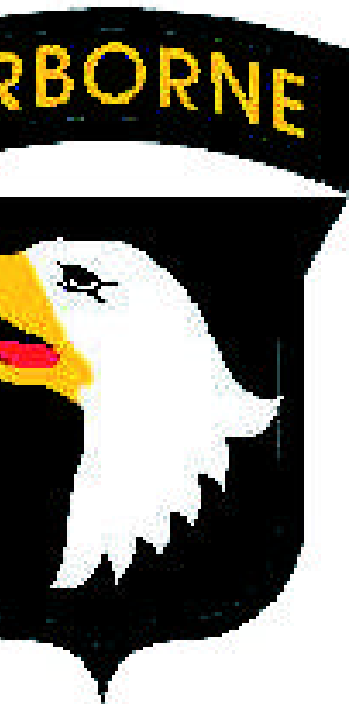
e to Kosovo



Force Falcon's optometry unit wave peace signs in Urosevac/Ferizaj



A soldier from 2B rotation steps off of the bus in Camp Able Sentry on his way home.



Ranko and Vlado, cooks for Brown and Root food services, barbeque to rock and roll music as they greet the incoming soldiers to Macedonia.

Timmy spends time with friendly people

**Story and photos by Spc. Marshall Thompson
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

A small dark haired boy with large brown eyes sits in his hospital bed surrounded by his family members as he progresses toward good health in the Task Force Falcon medical facility.

Most eleven-year-old children like Pajtim Zeka, from Viti Kosovo who likes to play soccer and watch Power Rangers and who everybody calls Timmy, wouldn't enjoy being stuck in a hospital bed all day. Timmy is no exception, but he still keeps a positive attitude.

"I don't like being in bed all day either but the people here are very nice to me," Timmy said with the help of an interpreter.

His father, mother and uncle take turns keeping a twenty-four hour vigil while Timmy is in the hospital. His father said that he knew Timmy was sick since his birth and that's why he brought his child to KFOR to get medical attention.

Timmy was checked in on May 2 for a congenital problem with his intestines. He was operated on and, as it turns out, Timmy was a very lucky boy.

Maj. Timothy Counihan, a general surgeon with Task Force Medical Falcon from the 399th Combat Support Hospital, said, "People that knew [Timmy] brought him by for us to evaluate. It happens to be that myself, and Maj. Cataldo, the other general surgeon here, are both colorectal surgeons, and both have expertise in this kind of surgery. So we were able to take care of his problem."

Maj. J.C. Cortiella, an anesthesiologist pediatrician with Task Force Medical Falcon from the 399th Combat Support Hospital, said, "He's lucky in that we have probably the best place to have the surgery given. We had the right people at the right time and I do pediatric anesthesiology. It was matter of all the stars coming together. It was the right patient for the right people at the right time."

Counihan said that this kind of coincidence isn't all that uncommon here in Kosovo and cited recent incidents with a neural surgeon and a



Timmy sits in bed and watches a movie in the TF MedFalcon hospital.



Timmy lays in bed and watches Aladin with his mother, father, brother and uncle. He said he likes them around to have someone to talk to.

earn nose and throat specialist.

"I've heard lots of stories about surgeons with sub-specialties coming out here and then finding patients that require that sub-specialty. It seems like when there are specialty surgeons around the patients seem to find the surgeon. I don't know how," said Counihan.

The two specialty surgeons that Timmy found have actually known each other for a long time.

"[Counihan] and I have trained together for nine years. We physically raised our hands and joined [The Army Reserve] together," said Thomas E. Cataldo, a general surgeon with Task Force Medical Falcon from the 399th Combat Support Hospital.

The doctors all said that they were all glad to help in anyway they could.

"It's a privilege to be here," said Cataldo. "Other people should be so lucky."

Counihan said that he likes serving the KFOR soldiers as well as the local nationals.

"KFOR soldiers are people who are out here for the right reasons. They're here to help out people who are not as fortunate as us. And the locals are fun because we delivers a level of care that they might not have available here, so it's win-win."

Timmy's father said through the help of an interpreter that he was very thankful to the KFOR soldiers for helping his son and being so nice to them.

Cortiella said, "Our mission is about helping the people in this country and about providing excellent care. The future of this country is children."

Emergency medical team fights illness and helps out troops

**Story by Pfc. Duane Brown
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

The front-line of defense against illness and injury, Task Force Medical Falcon's emergency medical team stands guard day and night.

On Camp Bondsteel, EMT takes all illness and trauma cases within Kosovo Force and Local nationals that have injuries that threaten life, limb or eyesight.

"We feel we have one of the most important missions in the Balkans, which is to provide routine and emergency care to soldiers and support personnel deployed as members of KFOR," said Sgt. 1st Joseph G. Kaiser III, noncommissioned officer in charge of the TFMedFalcon EMT.

Along with these duties, EMT has a sick-call mission. They take care of all troops and employees affiliated with the Kosovo Force mission.

These troops and employees include NATO, Brown and Root, independent contractors and the Department of Defense employees.

"The care I receive here is great, they treat me like I'm one of their children that have fallen down and got hurt," said Pfc. Stacey Lacey, military police, 793rd Military Police Battalion.

"Camp Bondsteel and referrals from the other multinational brigade east camps keep us busy," Kaiser said. The largest number of cases are related to strains and sprains."

The EMT has general surgeons, orthopedic and family practice physicians, nurse practitioners, emergency nurses, paramedics and field medics.

Field medics from battalion aide stations volunteer time to assist in the EMT, Parrish said.

"Allowing medics to volunteer time in the EMT allows them to improve on already existing medical skills," said Staff Sgt. Walter Kirsulis, NCOIC, 40th Engi-



Sgt. Matthew Rizzo, a medical specialist with Task Force Medical Falcon from the 399th Combat Support Hospital, prepares for incoming patients by making sure all the necessary supplies are available.

neer Battalion Aid Station.

Motor vehicle crashes, ranging from passenger vehicles to armored personnel carriers is the greatest number of trauma cases that the EMT section treats, Kaiser said.

The number of land-mine incidents has decreased because of the efforts put forth by the Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit's

removal of 95 percent of in ground mines.

In sick call, Upper respiratory infections and orthopedic injuries makeup the bulk of the caseload, said Parrish.

"Warming up and stretching prior to physical activity are very important steps to starting physical training to reduce these types of injuries," Kaiser Added.

Medical Corner

The Waterboy comes to Camp Bondsteel

**Story by 1st Lt. Michael Oliveira
Task Force Med Falcon**

When most of us think of the movie, "The Waterboy", we think of the zany and dimwitted character, Bobby Boucher, dressed with matching water canisters strapped to his head. In true comedy fashion, Bobby would be bruised and beaten to a pulp by his unappreciative football team while he distilled his miraculous blends of glorified H₂O. Unlike his team, and despite all the humor, "The Waterboy" recognized the true importance of good clean water. Unfortunately, there's no "Waterboy" at Bondsteel to protect us. All we have is our good common sense, and unfortunately, as Mama says, there's nothing common about common sense. So we must learn about preventing heat injuries.

Three types of heat injury—cramps, exhaustion, and stroke—may occur because of insufficient water intake. Soldiers should recognize the signs, symptoms and ways to treat each type.

Heat cramps result primarily from the loss of salt and water from the body—they often lead to painful muscle cramps. Victims often have wet skin and extreme thirst. Heat cramps may occur alone or in the presence of heat exhaustion.

Heat exhaustion occurs because of excessive salt and water loss. Victims have sweating, headaches, tingling sensations in the hands and feet, paleness, difficulty breathing,



irregular beating of the heart, loss of appetite, nausea, and vomiting. In contrast to heat cramps, heat exhaustion victims have cool, moist skin and may have a lowered blood pressure.

Heat stroke is a medical emergency. It results when the body's ability to regulate temperature and cool itself shuts down. Early signs of heat stroke include headache, dizziness, delirium, weakness, nausea, vomiting, excessive warmth, fast pulse and breathing and seizures. Sweating may or may not be present. Heat stroke must be treated at

once.

Several factors put people at risk of a heat injury. Included among these are not being acclimatized to the weather, being overweight or tired, eating heavy or hot foods, and wearing tight clothing. Also, people who are unaccustomed to a warm climate are more likely to be injured.

Prevention of heat injuries involves alerting people to dangerous heat levels, reducing duration and heat exposure, getting rest and spending time in the shade, and increasing the resistance of exposed people.

But the most important preventive step is to drink plenty of water. The human body depends on water to cool itself in a hot environment. An individual may lose as much as one quart of water per hour by sweating. These losses must be replaced or the body temperature rises, resulting in heat injury. People should continuously drink small amounts of water throughout the day and not wait until thirsty.

Another preventive approach is to employ work and rest periods. The heat produced by the body increases directly with increasing workloads. By using a work/rest cycle and avoiding work in the sun on hot days, the chances of suffering a heat injury are greatly diminished.

Heat injuries are preventable, if proper precautions are taken. As warm days are ahead, commanders must instill good water discipline among their troops now. It's fairly straightforward strategy, or as Bobby Boucher would say, "It's all in the water."

A Multinational Integrated Medical Unit is born on Camp Bondsteel

**Story and Photos by
SpC. Maria Jaramillo
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

Task Force Falcon marked the beginning of its first integrated field hospital in a ceremony May 17 at Camp Bondsteel.

The international medical personnel were combined in an effort to staff the TFF's only level III hospital to required standards.

Soldiers from Multinational Brigade (East) and soldiers from Multinational Brigade (Central) have combined resources to create Kosovo Force's only Multinational Integrated Medical Unit.

"To integrate the facilities was the natural way forward," said British Maj. Jon P. Best, executive officer, Task Force Medical Falcon Hospital.

The TF MedFalcon hospi-

tal on Bondsteel incorporated 25 British soldiers from Reynolds Combat Service Support Hospital in Pristina, Kosovo.

"We were finding it difficult to properly staff the hospital to meet standards. Key staff personnel were missing on both sides," Best said.

Multinational Integrated Medical Unit was the answer for both nations. British medical personnel will fill key staff positions within the American medical team already in TF Med Falcon. The new personnel include three operating room practitioners, a radiologist and laboratory technician. With combined medical assets, American and British manpower will be reduced by 50 percent, Best said.

British Sgt. Maj. Duncan Astley, first sergeant, TFMedFalcon hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps, ex-

pressed both enthusiasm and apprehension over the integration.

"I am enthusiastic and looking forward to this, but I'm a little apprehensive too. We are two different cultures, and it will take a couple of days of working together to get over any initial problems we might have," Astley said.

The common language and the same concept of accepted medical practices will help the transition process, said American Col. Joyce C. Humphrey, commanding officer, TF MedFalcon hospital.

"This will be a 50/50 effort. It will prove to be very interesting," Astley said.

The relocation of the British medical personnel affected the city of Pristina. Instead of a hospital, Pristina will now gain a primary health care center run by a British Close Support Medical Squadron.



Unfolding the British colors, Major Jon Best, executive officer, Task Force Med Falcon hospital, prepares to combine the first TFF multinational medical unit.

Legal Corner

Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act: Protects Your Parental Rights

Story by
Capt. Matthew Caspari
Chief Client Services

One of the more challenging aspects of a deployment is to ensure that your financial and legal affairs are properly maintained while you are gone. Even if you provide a trusted loved one with a power of attorney to pay your bills or set up an allotment, situations often arise when you are gone that you simply cannot attend to until you return home. One of the more frequent areas in which problems arise is in the area of family law.

Soldiers that pay child support pursuant to a court order often receive letters in the mail from a court or a private attorney indicating that the other parent is suing them for an increase in child support. Since most states set the amount of child support pursuant to guidelines that look at the income of the parties, the parent with custody of the children will view the increase in income resulting from a soldier's deployment as a legal ground to seek an increase in the child support amount. Only a judge can order a change in support. But before a

court can change the existing child support order, the soldier must be served with proper legal notice. When a soldier receives this type of notice, they should visit the Legal Assistance Office immediately.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA) was enacted to assist soldiers who are placed in the situation of having to defend their rights while they are deployed. SSCRA provides for a stay of proceedings in a civil case when the ability of a soldier to defend their rights in a court action is materially affected by their military obligations. A "stay of the proceeding" means that the case is essentially frozen until the soldier can return home to participate in the matter. Normally, a soldier has a difficult enough time trying to simply call home from Kosovo let alone attempting to defend their rights in a pending lawsuit. Therefore, it is often necessary to invoke the protections of the SSCRA.

Invoking the protections of the SSCRA is rather simple. A soldier should bring any court papers he or she received and any other relevant information to the Legal Assistance Office. Generally, we will prepare a letter addressed to the court for their

commander's signature. The letter will simply state that the soldier is deployed to Kosovo and is unable to participate in the court proceedings until the soldier returns home and request the stay of proceedings under SSCRA.

Although the SSCRA applies to all civil actions, here are some things to remember in the context of child support cases. First, if a court modifies a child support award, it will look at the date the petition was filed to determine when that amount should take effect. For example, if a petition is filed on May 15, 2001, but the court does not decide the case until you return on December 15, 2001, the modification will be effective May 15, 2001. This example should reinforce the fact that federal law simply provides for a "freeze" of the case, it does not impair or jeopardize any legal rights.

Second, remember that most states allow a party to increase child support based upon the legal standard of "change of circumstances". If the custodial parent is attempting to increase the amount of child support based upon a soldier's increase in income during the deployment, the soldier should already be thinking about the decrease in income that will

occur when he or she redeployes. To continue with the example above, if a court decides to increase the child support amount when the soldier returns home on December 15, 2001, then the soldier should immediately petition the court to decrease the amount prospectively. After all, the soldier will lose the tax benefits and hazardous duty pay shortly upon redeployment. The key is to limit any increase in child support to the time that you actually earned more money.

Finally, every family law situation is different. This article addresses the situation where the non-custodial parent is current on his or her child support obligation and the custodial parent simply wants to increase support payments based upon the increase in pay due to the deployment. In more serious cases, where a soldier may not be properly supporting a child or is in arrears in child support, a court may not be as willing to grant a stay of the proceedings. Remember that under Army Regulation 608-99, every soldier has an obligation to comply with court orders. If you have any questions about this article or other legal matters, please visit the Task Force Falcon Legal Assistance Office.

AFN Radio

AFN Radio can be heard on
88.0 FM.

**Special Show hours
include:**

Balkans Morning Show

6 a.m.-9 a.m.

Country Round-Up

9 a.m.-11 a.m.

80's Lunch

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Today's Alternative

3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Saturdays:

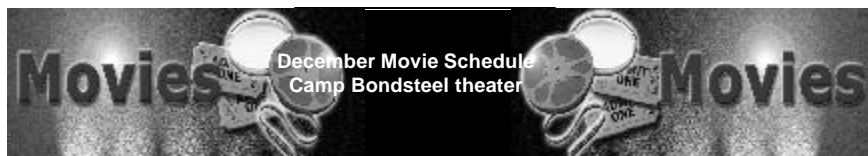
Balkans Saturday Show

8 a.m.-10 a.m.

Solid Gold Show

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Request lines are open at
762-5556**



June 1 1930 The Gift 2130 Castaway	June 7 1930 Snatch 2130 Ladies Man	2130 Antitrust
June 2 1930 See Spot Run 2130 Traffic	June 8 1930 Valentine 2130 Monkey Bone	June 12 1930 Dracula 2000 2130 Saving Silverman
June 3 1930 15 Minutes 2130 Traffic	June 9 1930 Hannibal 2130 Say It Isn't So	June 13 1930 Say It Isn't So 2130 Mexican
June 4 1930 Save The Last Dance 2130 The Pledge	June 10 1930 Mexican 2130 Hannibal	June 14 1930 Wedding Planner 2130 The Gift
June 5 1930 15 Minutes 2130 Ladies Man	June 11 1930 3000 Miles To Graceland	June 15 1930 Monkey Bone 2130 Antitrust

Chaplains' Corner

Be Relentless in your mission

Story by
Chaplain Maj. Len Kircher
Task Force Falcon Chaplain

As part of the Task Force Falcon Team deploying to Kosovo, we Soldiers of these great units have the opportunity to show the world what we are made of. The motto for our unit, "Be Relentless," serves as the rallying point drawing us to the mission that lies ahead. As you prepare yourself and your family for the deployment, I would like to offer these four points:

1. Be Relentless in Your

Faith-God has called each of you for this mission. You have been placed here on this earth and in this unit for a divine purpose. It is no accident that you are going to take part in this deployment. Take the opportunity to reflect on

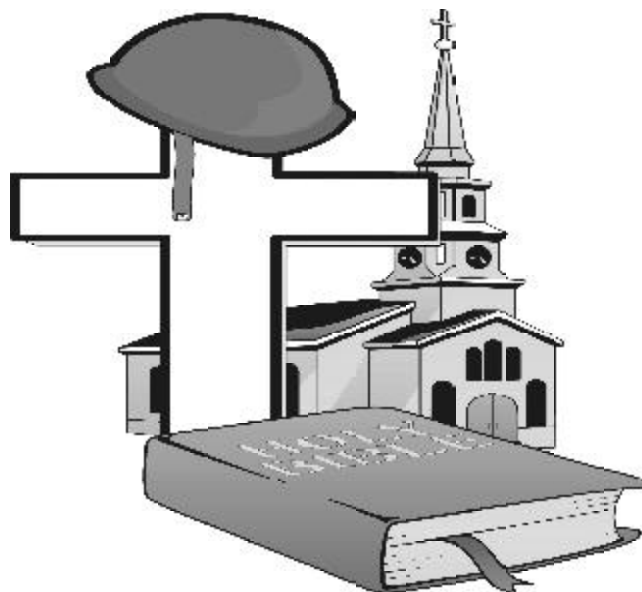
your purpose in life and to grow in your walk with God.

2. Be Relentless in Your

Duty- We are about to embark on a "real world" mission. Our country needs and appreciates what you do. You are part of the very few who chose to serve their families and country by joining the military. Every act you perform, every person you help, makes a lasting impression on how you as a person and the United States is perceived.

3. Be Relentless in Doing

What is Right-Always take the tougher right over the easier wrong. Never let a deficiency go by. The seven Army Values will take on real meaning for you when you begin your service overseas. Doing what is right is part of the history our nation and its mili-



tary. You are living that history.

4. Be Relentless in Treat- ing Every Person with Dignity

and Respect-This is a peacekeeping mission. The Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," should be

the guiding principle by which you live. Never forget: no matter how good or bad you perceive a person to be, each of us has been instilled with a "spark of the Divine;" a soul. Your fellow Soldiers, the nation we serve, the people in Kosovo, all are important to God.

KFOR Worship Schedule

Camp Bondsteel

PEACEKEEPERS CHAPEL SERVICES

Sunday

0800 Episcopal/Lutheran
1100 General Protestant
1500 Gospel Choir Practice
1600 Gospel Service
1900 Bible Study-Prayer

Monday

1900 Video Night

Tuesday

1900 Women's Bible Study

Wednesday

1900 Mid-Week Service

Thursday

1800 Gospel Choir
1900 Gospel Prayer Service

Friday

1900 Joy Night

Saturday

1300 Protestant Choir Rehearsal
1600 Confession
1700 Mass
1900 Gospel Choir

SOUTHTOWN CHAPEL

Sunday

0800 Mass
1000 General Protestant
1300 Gospel Service
1600 LDS Service
1700 LDS Sunday School
1900 GenX

Monday

1800 LDS Family Night

Tuesday

1900 Gospel Service Prayer

Wednesday

1900 Mid-Week Service

Friday

1200 Islamic

2000 Jewish

Saturday

1100 SDA
1900 Movie Night

Camp Monteith

SUNDAY

0830 LDS Service
1000 Protestant Service
1115 Bible Study
1300 Gospel Service
1600 AA Meeting
1900 Catholic Mass
2000 Contemporary Service

TUESDAY

1900 New Believers Class

WEDNESDAY

1900 Catholic Mass/Inquiry Class

THURSDAY

0800 Catholic Mass

1900 Promise Keepers Bible Study

FRIDAY

1900 Praise and Worship Night

SATURDAY

1800 Gospel Choir Practice
2000 Movie Night

Camp Able Sentry

Sunday

0130 Protestant Service

1300 Spanish Mass

1600 LDS Service

1900 Gospel Service

Tuesday

1900 Gospel Bible Study

Wednesday

2000 Mid-Week Bible Study

Thursday

1900 Prayer Meeting

Friday

1900 Gospel Hour

Saturday

1730 Catholic Mass

1900 Choir Rehearsal

The "Cottonbailers" create history

**Story by
Spc. Engels Tejeda
Camp Monteith PAO**

Only two weeks in theatre and the 3rd Battalion of the 7th Infantry Regiment, "The Cottonbailers," out of Fort Stewart, Ga., are already making history. This time, soldiers of the 3-7 IN peacefully collected the largest weapon turn-in since Task Force Falcon entered Kosovo. Of equal or perhaps more historical importance, was the surrender of the UCPMB commander Shefket Musliu to Multinational Brigade East.

The "Cottonbailers" entered Kosovo in early May, and inherited an in-progress KFOR mission from the 2nd Battalion of the 6 Infantry Regiments, "The Gators," out of Baumholder, Germany to relax The Ground Safety Zone, Zone B. Zone B is the last of a four zones along the Kosovo Serbian border.

"We plan to continue the path of progress that they (the 2/6 IR) set up and established," said Lt. Col. Richard J. Dixon, commander of the 3/7IN. "We are picking up the same activities in sector and in the community that they (the Gators) have done."

Dixon added that they plan to help further the progress of the people of Kosovo so that they can find a solution to this problem.

With such mentality, the Cottonbailers have continued to collect large numbers of gear from the UCPMB. On a day by day basis, more than ten truckloads of weapons were peacefully delivered to U.S. and Russian check points. These deliveries included

mines, hand grenades, rifles, machine guns, anti-aircraft weapons, and mortars. They also had hundreds of rounds of ammunition, communication equipment, clothing, and protective gear turned-in as well.

Since 18 May, over 450 UCPMB members laid down their weapons and turned themselves in

and released if not guilty of given crimes.

While relaxing Zone B, MNB-E also saw the transition of authority from the Gators to the Cottonbailers. In a smooth, troubles-less manner, the Bailers took over several observation points.

It was at Observation Point

3-7 IR provided security at the observation point, while the 789th Explosive Ordinance Disposal Company out of Fort Benning, Ga., ensured that the un-exploded mines were carefully moved to a safe place.

Then on May 25 the 3-7 IN made history again, when Musliu turned himself in near the town of Dorjne Kormenjane, where Gate 5 is located. "I can say we have turned-in our weapons and it's time to stop the war," said Musliu.

This event not only left a mark in history, but also signifies a turning point for KFOR.

"I think the actions of the UCPMB set the example for all the people of Kosovo -Serbs or Albanians- that the time for bleeding is over. Now is time to focus on the building of Kosovo's future," said Col. Gene Kamina, deputy commander of MNB-E.

Though the weapons were turned in peacefully, the series of incidents have created an environment where a lot is expected of the Cottonbailers. These soldiers are required to maintain full security for the sector at all hours, to sometimes conduct patrols in dangerous areas and to risk everything to accomplish their mission.

"I am bringing a disciplined, professional outfit who is trained and ready. (We) are prepared for both combat operations and peace enforcement," said Dixon of his battalion.

As their first two weeks in theatre come to a close, the soldiers of the 3-7 IN have seen a little of everything. The "outstanding" job they have done will come to little surprise to anyone, for they are the most decorated battalion in the U.S. Army.



UCPMB soldiers turn themselves in along with 7 tractor loads full of weapons and ammunition at check point 75.

to MNB-E. This came as a result of a "soft policy" employed by KFOR, which dictated that all who turned themselves in would be screened

Sapper, that the largest weapons turn-in took place on May 24. At the time of the turn-in, Headquarters Headquarters Company of the

The Franklins give Camp Bondsteel a little bit of "Rock and Roll"



The Franklins sing "Sweet Home Alabama" to the crowd of TFF soldiers gathered for their May 27 MWR concert.

**Story and Photo by
Pfc. Christen Coulon
Camp Bondsteel PAO**

The soldiers at Camp Bondsteel were given a special treat May 27 from the people at Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

The treat was, a "southtown" area concert featuring the Franklins, a college band from James Madison University, Va. who played a mix of popular cover songs to the Task Force Falcon soldiers.

The band has been touring military installations in the area, and said they were first approached about doing the tour by David Mills, Armed Forces Entertainment. Mills had heard the band play in Harrisburg, Va., liked what he saw and said "I want to send you guys over."

They said they really enjoy performing for the soldiers and knowing that they can do something to lift their spirits.

"I want (the soldiers) to leave the concert and say that for two or three hours they had fun and were able to forget about all the stuff going on in their lives," said David Hailey, band member. "When they leave I hope they say, that band way really good and then we did our job."

When it's your off time on Camp Bondsteel, you can be sure there's something out there for everyone, whether it's chilling to some music or burning off energy. Here is the June lowdown.

WEEKLY EVENTS**Southside Fitness Center****Monday:**

Step Aerobics- 1830-2000

Music: Techno & Folk- 2100-2400

Tuesday:

Music: Old School- 2100-2400

Wednesday:

Step Aerobics-1830-2000

Music: Classic & Modern Rock- 2100-2400

Thursday:

Music: Country-2100-2400

Friday:

Step Aerobics-1830-2000

Music: Salsa-2100-2400

Saturday:

Music: Hip Hop-2100-2400

Sunday:

Game Show Mania- 1930-2100

Karaoke- 2100-2400

EVENTS FOR JUNE**Southside Fitness Center****June 1st:**KFOR Running Club- organizational meeting at 1800 hours**June 2nd & 3rd:**Body 4 Life orientation- consists signing up for Body For Life Challenge, Body Composition, Weigh-in, Before Photos, presentation on proper diet, Demonstration of proper lifting techniques and various programs.**June 2nd The theatre at 1100 hours****June 3rd The Southside Fitness Center at 1100 hours****June 8th:**Women in Rock- scheduled for 2000 hours. Impersonators to include Tina Turner and Cher.**June 15th:**Taylor Made Jazz (International R&B Jazz Band)-Performing hits from their CD: The Next Step "everything is gonna be alright". Scheduled for the Outside Stage at 2000 hours.**Army Birthday 5k Guidon Run****8:00 am 17 Jun @****Southside Rec Center**

Pre-registration required.

Sign up at North or Southside Fitness center.

Minimum of 10 runners.

Unit T-shirts authorized.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place team award.

Spirit award for overall display of unit spirit

June 17th:Army Birthday 5k Guidon Run-scheduled for 0800 hours. Pre-registration required at North or Southside Fitness Center. A min. of 10 runners. Unit T-shirts are authorized. Awards for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and a spirit award for overall display of esprit de corps.**Red Cross/ MWR Welcome Celebration and**Gong Show- scheduled for 1900 hours. The event starts off with a Gong Show at 1900. Sign up your various talents. No talent will be turned away. At 2030 there will be a June Birthday Party, followed by a Welcome Dance with several different DJs and Karaoke.**COMING SOON**The California Girls 23-28 June
Laugh Force 24-29 June**TRIPS TO BULGARIA**- ASG personnel sign up at the ASG PAC Office. TFF personnel sign up at the TFF G1.**NEW IDEAS? WANT TO****VOLUNTEER?**- The MWR is always looking for fresh ideas. Complete the MWR Customer Survey available at the Recreation Centers.

MWR is holding a contest for soldiers to submit a generic design that can be distributed throughout KFOR camps.



Designs must be submitted by June 24 to Danielle Crawford at the Southside Fitness Center, upstairs.

Do you...

Like to **DRAW?**Have a sense of **HUMOR?**

Then we are looking for you! You have a chance to get your art printed in the Falcon Flier. Task Force Public Affairs is accepting cartoons now. Bring your cartoons to Building 1320, PAO Production Room. Don't forget to name, rank and unit on every submission.

Questions call PAO production room at 781-5200.

Good taste only. Any derogatory content will not be considered.

**we want
you!**

***DJ's**
***Musicians**
***Comedians**
***Dancers**

Contact Mr. Cooper at the Southside Fitness Center.

**BODY
for
LIFE**

Orientation:
1100 hours
2nd June- Theatre
3rd June- Southside
Fitness Center



CSM tells soldiers to BE RELENTLESS

CSM Marvin Hill Task Force Falcon

I am excited to be here. We have come from different parts of the U.S. We are active and reserve. We are soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and civilians. We are proud of our units, their heritage, philosophies, and ethos at home. Now, we're one team and our diversity will be our strength here.

Our bond is the patch we wear on our right shoulders and the mission in front of us. We will represent our flag with honor. And we'll perform our mission relentlessly.

We'll provide a safe and secure environment for all Kosovars and we'll take every member of this force home safe and in one piece. Never compromise our flag or our mission.

There are a few important things you need to know about the task force's NCO support channel and me. First, I'm not 'the' task

force command sergeant major; I'm 'your' task force command sergeant major. Second, I'll be accessible to you. And finally, we'll have an NCO support channel that can solve problems for you.

I want you to BE RELENTLESS in your duties. That means being mentally tough and sticking to standards. Stand by the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Never compromise our values.

Naturally, we face turbulence here right away. We'll make that turbulence worse if we rush to change the way things were being done when we got here.

Be patient. Treat a change in course like the captain of an aircraft carrier steers his ship in a storm. Make slow, gradual turns so that your crew doesn't know it's happening. A sharp turn can shake everyone up and that's one thing we need to avoid.

I'm looking forward to the next six months as your task force Command Sergeant Major. BE RELENTLESS!



Civil Affairs works to build bridges

Story and photos by Spc. Marshall Thompson, Camp Bonsteel PAO

The river below is visible through holes that open up between the twisted beams of metal that make up an important bridge between the 350 people of Pustenik and the rest of the world.

Task Force Falcon Civil Affairs team, as part of their mission here in Kosovo, visited the city and determined that the bridge was in serious need of repair.

"The heavy rain and melted snow washed away most of the bridge. It's on the verge of falling down," said Sgt. 1st Class Weldarson S. Robinson, team noncommissioned officer in charge of one of four civil affairs teams here with the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion.

"[The people of Pustenik] can walk across it but that's about it," Robinson said.

Private 1st Class Michael Grant, a shop foreman with HHC 2nd Brigade motor pool with the 1st Armored Division who accompanied the convoy, said, "Being a family man, I understand the importance of the modes of transportation, this bridge for instance, is needed to get food and supplies for their families."

"My concern is not my personal interests. My concern is seeing that the people of this village get what they need," said Staff Sgt. Brigitte Charles, team sergeant in the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion.

One of the people that will benefit by the selfless actions of Charles and her teammates is 17-year-old Hekuran Loki.

Loki is from a small village down the road. He pushed a handcart across the precarious bridge to fill it up with gravel shoveled from the river bottom to rebuild a home.

Through the help of the interpreter, Loki said that the people of the city and the surrounding areas needed the bridge very



Soldiers from the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion observe and evaluate a bridge in poor shape that provides the only access to the outside world for the people of Pustenik, Kosovo.

badly. Loki listened in on the conversation between Capt. Wayne Sweeney, commander of the civil affairs team, and the Swiss Development Corporation.

The civil affairs team works with local leaders and the Swiss Development Corporation (SDC), an organization dedicated to build and rebuild homes and bridges, like the Bushi Bridge that provides access from this small town to the communities around it.

The SDC is based in Pristina and built or rebuilt over 600 homes last year, according to Drita Nushi part of the conception division.

"Last year we had a good experience with the Swiss KFOR, the French KFOR and the German KFOR. So they would like also to do some projects together with the U.S. Army,"

Nushi said.

"Right now [the bridge project] is in its initial stages. They have to decide whether they want to do it or not," Sweeney said.

Sweeney said that he first heard of the Swiss group from a fellow civil affairs officer. He then contacted them about the bridge. This was the first in-person meeting between Sweeney and the Swiss organization.

"From what I saw I think they're very interested. I think they're impressed with the bridge and really want to do something," Sweeney said.

"We're here to give these people a jump start so to speak," said Robinson. "We're not here to lead them around by the nose. We want to train them to take things up on their own. That's basically what our mission is."

"The civil affairs mission is to ensure reconstruction after the war by building bridges, schools, and providing humanitarian assistance, food and clothing, to the people that need them," Charles said.

Robinson summed up the spirit of the civil affairs mission in Kosovo, "We let them stand up for themselves instead of us standing up for them."



Loki shovels gravel from the river next to the precarious bridge. The gravel will be loaded into hand carts and taken across the bridge to be used in rebuilding a home in a near by village.